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Cuſtom and Method of Inoculation *for the Small-pox at* Hindoſtan.

INOCULATION is performed in Hindoſtan by a particular tribe of Bramins, who are delegated annually for that ſervice. The inhabitants of the different provinces, knowing the uſual time of their arrival, obſerve ſtrictly the regimen enjoined, whether they determine to be inoculated or not. This preparation conſiſts only in abſtaining for a month from fiſh, milk, and ghee, a kind of butter made generally of buffalo's milk. When the Bramins begin to inoculate, they paſs from houſe to houſe, and operate at the door; refuſing to perform on any perſon who has not ſtrictly obſerved the preparatory courſe enjoined them. It is not unuſual for them to aſk their parents, how many puſtules they chuſe their children ſhould have; and though vanity, more than well-founded confidence in their own ſkill, might ſeem to prompt ſuch a queſtion, we are aſſured by good authority, that they hardly ever exceed, or are deficient in the number required. They inoculate indifferently on any part, but, if left to their own choice, they prefer the outſide of the arm, mid-way between the wriſt and the elbow for the males, and the ſame between the elbow and ſhoulder for thoſe of the other ſex. After the operation, which, a few ſuperſtitious ceremonies excepted, is performed nearly in the uſual manner, the diet, that had been previouſly recommended, is ordered to be continued a month longer. It is likewiſe preſcribed, that a quantity of cold water be thrown on the patient every morning and evening, till the fever ſupervenes; from which time this method of bathing is to be ſuſpended, until the appearance of the eruption, when it is again to be practiſed in the ſame manner, through the ſubſequent courſe of the diſeaſe. The puſtules are opened with a fine ſharp-pointed thorn, as ſoon as they begin to change their colour, and whilſt the matter continues in a fluid ſtate. Confinement to the houſe is abſolutely forbid, and the regimen is ordered to conſiſt of all the cooling things which the climate and ſeaſon produces.

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As in the hollow of a rotten Oak,
So in the rotten hollows of the State;
A nest of plundring hornets to provoke,
Calls thousands forth to urge their venom'd hate.
Tis hard the honey of industrious Bees,
Should fatten drones, in pensions and in fees!

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